

**SCHAUMBURG, IL** — Congresswoman Melissa Bean (IL-8), who has focused heavily during her first year in office on improving transportation infrastructure in the Northwest Suburbs, joined Metra and Grayslake city officials today in inaugurating the new Washington Street Metra Station. Bean, Grayslake Mayor Timothy Perry and State Rep. Bob Churchill, also celebrated the completion of one portion of the multi-million dollar North Central Service Metra Expansion.

Service to the new commuter rail station, located on Washington Street west of Lake Street, will begin on Monday, January 30th. Ten inbound and ten outbound trains will offer area residents daily Metra service between Antioch and Chicago with a transfer to O'Hare International Airport.

As part of her ongoing efforts to support upgrading the area's transportation networks, Bean also expressed her strong support of efforts to procure federal and state funding for a Rte 120 bypass, which could significantly improve the east-west traffic flow for a large portion of Lake County, ease commute times and facilitate Lake County economic development. Bean announced that she has asked Governor Blagojevich to support a request made by Lake County and the Rte 120 Corridor Planning Council for \$400,000 in Illinois Department of Transportation funding so that a preliminary study can be completed and the project can proceed.

**“Residents of Grayslake and surrounding communities regularly tell me that heavy traffic, congested intersections, and overcrowded roadways are an unending, day-in and day-out annoyance,” Bean said. “That’s why I’m committed to doing everything I can to make sure those frustrations are heard and addressed in Washington.”**

**“We’re all proud of the communities that we’ve built and are a part of, but we shouldn’t accept lost time and unnecessary stress when traveling in them. I’m excited about the Metra expansion made possible with federal funding my Illinois colleagues and I worked to obtain. This particular project exemplifies the kind of transportation modernization we need in our communities. To continue that progress, I have asked Governor Blagojevich to support a request for the state funding required to build a Rte 120 bypass.”**

Bean worked with the Illinois delegation to obtain funding for improvements to construction on

the North Central Service that will be funded in major part through the Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users. The legislation also includes additional \$24 million in funding that Bean obtained for traffic improvements in the 8th District, as well as funds that she and others in the Illinois delegation requested to help enhance Metra's suburban passenger service, including initial development of the STAR line, linking a number of northwest suburban communities.

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